

Torrance, California
July 3, 1956

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting at 5:30 P. M. Tuesday, July 3, 1956, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Torrance, California.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Jahn and Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount. City Manager Stevens and Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer were also present.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mr. George Schneider led the salute to the Flag.

The Reverend Mitoon opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilman Benstead moved to approve the Minutes of the meeting of June 26, 1956, as written.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, no objection, so ordered.

HEARINGS:

Mayor Isen announced that this was the time and place for the first public hearing on the Budget for the Fiscal Year 1956-57.

Councilman Drale went on record as saying he felt the City can maintain their budget and give an increase in salaries, maintain free pickup service and still not increase the tax rate.

Councilman Benstead said he agreed with this thought.

Mayor Isen said he felt the time and place for concern about taxes was after receiving the assessment valuations sometime in August. He pointed out that the combined budget for the Police and Fire Departments is over a million dollars.

Councilman Benstead commented on the amount of money now on hand in the amount of approximately \$225,000.00.

Councilman Drale said he has always been in favor of a cash "carry-over", but believes that a hundred thousand dollars is enough to provide an ample margin.

Mayor Isen went on record as opposing any unnecessary increase in taxes, and said the School Board evidently does contemplate an over-ride tax, but the two bodies should not be confused in the eyes of the public.

Councilman Benstead expressed his opinion that the County has raised the assessed valuation of property in the City.

Councilman Jahn asked if the tax rate would be passed tonight, and City Manager Stevens replied that a budget would have to be adopted, but the tax rate cannot be set until the end of August.

In reply to another question from Councilman Jahn, City Manager Stevens said we do not set the taxes now, but if this budget is adopted, the fund that would change under the final tax rate would be the unappropriated reserve.

Mayor Isen said we can raise the tax rate to meet the budget if it is necessary. He went on to say the question now is whether or not the Council approves the figures of the proposed budget before them.

City Manager Stevens explained that a budget has to be adopted so we can operate.

No one came forward from the floor when Mayor Isen invited comment on this proposed budget.

Mayor Isen moved the budget for the Parks and Recreation Department, the sum of \$164,432.00, be increased by \$2,500.00, and that the matter of the Torrance Area Youth Band be referred to the Parks and Recreation Department for their immediate consideration, with the end in mind that the Band be placed within the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Director and the Parks and Recreation Department.

Councilman Benstead said he felt it should only be recommended that the Band meet with the Parks and Recreation Commission for consideration of their problem. He said he believed that Mr. Van Bellehem, Parks and Recreation Director, has a plan to discuss with the Youth Band.

Councilman Benstead seconded the motion.

Councilman Jahn asked if the meeting should not be left at the discretion of the Parks and Recreation Commission, but the question of the money be referred back to the Council.

Mayor Isen explained this would have to be done.

City Manager Stevens said if the money is put into their budget for that purpose, it will have to be used for that purpose and no other.

Councilman Benstead said the money would be dispensed by the Recreation Department.

Mayor Isen amended his motion to specify that expenditure of the money for this purpose would be subject to the approval of the City Council.

Councilman Benstead accepted the amendment in his second to the motion.

Mayor Isen amended his motion further to earmark the money specifically for this purpose and no other.

Councilman Benstead accepted the amendment in his second to the motion.

Commissioner Tillim, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission was present, and asked what would happen to the money if the Youth Band did not choose to associate themselves with the Parks and Recreation Commission.

City Manager Stevens said the money would be returned to the General Fund.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount.

Councilman Drale asked to qualify his vote by saying he was not opposed to letting the Band have the support of the City, but before voting to make the money available, he would like to see the agreement worked out with them and the Parks and Recreation Department.

Mayor Isen ordered the Hearing continued until Tuesday, July 10, 1956, at 8:00 P. M.

Councilman Drale moved the budget be adopted as prepared without an increase in taxes.

Mayor Isen pointed out to Councilman Drale that his motion was out of order, at least until the second Hearing has been held.

ELLINWOOD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT - 1911 ACT - STREET LIGHTING:

A letter dated June 29, 1956, from City Engineer R. W. Bishop submitted a diagram showing the boundaries of the proposed District and a Resolution determining the nature, location and extent of the improvement.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2956

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DETERMINING THE NATURE, LOCATION AND EXTENT OF THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT OF PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY AND OTHER STREETS WITHIN WHAT IS KNOWN AS ELLINWOOD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BY THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION THEREIN OF A STREET LIGHTING SYSTEM; THE GENERAL BOUNDARIES OF THE PROPOSED ASSESSMENT DISTRICT; AND THE STATUTE UNDER WHICH IT IS PROPOSED TO CONDUCT THE PROCEEDINGS FOR SUCH IMPROVEMENT.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2956.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A memorandum dated June 29, 1956, from G. Whitacre, License Inspector, to A. H. Bartlett, City Clerk, recommending the Termination of oil well bonds Nos. 7927 and 7928, Morton & Kohlbush and Pacific American Oil Company, because these bonds have been replaced by two bonds from Continental Casualty Company.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation made by Mr. Whitacre.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

2. A letter dated June 25, 1956, from J. B. Cogan, Treasurer of Longren Aircraft Company, asking an extension of their lease and other arrangements to protect lenders, so Longren can secure more satisfactory financing for their plant at the Torrance Municipal Airport.

City Manager Stevens explained that this is a request to clarify an option agreement which protects the sublessor on the original lease and a request to re-write the lease exactly as it now exists except that it will be for a 50-year period from now instead of the length of time now specified, so they can secure money to carry out their program.

From an administrative viewpoint, the City Manager added, he thinks the City would benefit from this and he recommended approval of the request.

Councilman Jahn asked if the sub-lease agreement as it now stands has been approved by the Council, and the City Manager replied that it has.

Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer confirmed that the only change in the lease if this is granted will be in the length of time.

Councilman Jahn asked if the Airport Commission has seen this request, adding that he believes they plan to hold a special meeting on July 12, 1956.

Councilman Draie moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager, subject to approval of the Airport Commission.

Mr. Cogan was present, and said Longren would be satisfied with this.

Mayor Isen seconded the motion.

Councilman Benstead said the motion should specify that Longren would bear all expense of this change.

Mayor Isen said that problem could be solved by having Longren's attorneys prepare all the legal work connected with this and thus save the City the expense.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

3. A letter dated June 21, 1956, from Daniel Schnabel, Attorney for El Rancho Palos Verdes Corporation, regarding the lease at the Airport between the City of Torrance and his client.

The letter outlined a sublease to "El Rancho Rolling Hills" from El Rancho Palos Verdes.

Mayor Isen moved this be referred to the Airport Commission.

Councilman Jahn said this covered use of certain property as an office, and Mayor Isen said it could be specified that this office should be used as a motel office only.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objection, so ordered.

Communications from the City Manager:

The following recommendations submitted for consideration and approval:

PERSONNEL:

1. Frank Solis has been appointed to serve his probationary period as Police Officer, effective July 1, 1956, at the first salary step. (He was No. 1 on the Eligible List.)
2. Charlene D. Alarcon has been appointed to serve her probationary period as File Clerk and Police Matron, effective June 18, 1956, at the first salary step. (She was No. 2 on the Eligible List, having been selected as more desirable for this position than the No. 1 person).

Councilman Benstead challenged this appointment, asking why the No. 1 person was not more satisfactory.

City Manager Stevens said he did not know positively, but assumed that during the interviews she was found to be better suited to the work required than the No. 1 person.

Councilman Benstead asked why, and no one knew the answer.

Councilman Jahn asked if the Department Head did not have a choice between the top three on an Eligible List, and was told that this was true.

Councilman Benstead said he does not think anyone can determine the qualifications of a person without a probationary period, and the No. 1 person should have a chance.

Councilman Drale said he agrees that the No. 1 person on a list should be chosen.

Councilman Jahn disagreed, saying the No. 1 person would not always necessarily be the person for a specific job.

This appointment was ordered held over until the Council meeting after Chief of Police Haslam's return from his vacation, so he can discuss this with the Council.

3. Robert W. Semos has been appointed to serve his probationary period as Park Maintenance Man, effective June 25, 1956, at the first salary step. (He was No. 1 on the Eligible List.)
4. Loren Smith has been promoted from Laborer to Truck Driver in the Street Department, effective July 1, 1956, at the second salary step. (He was No. 1 on the Eligible List.)

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with Items 1, 3, and 4, as recommended by City Manager Stevens under Personnel.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Jahn. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount.

Councilman Jahn explained his vote by saying he thought Item 2 should have been approved as well, and he preferred to vote "No" on all Items rather than have it excluded.

AWARD OF BIDS ON WATER DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT:

- Item No. 1: Two six-cylinder 3/4-ton trucks.
That the bid of Bacon Sales be accepted, in the amount of \$2,139.92 after trade-in allowances.
- Item No. 2: Two service truck bodies, to fit 1956 3/4-ton chassis. That the bid of K. & K. Body Works be accepted, in the amount of \$1,157.00 plus tax.

- Item No. 3: One Wheel Tractor.
That the bid of Southwest Tractor Sales for the Shawnee equipment be accepted, in the amount of \$4,903.90 plus tax.
- Item No. 4: One two-wheel tilt-bed trailer.
That the bid of Southwest Tractor Sales be accepted, in the amount of \$444.65 plus tax.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with recommendations of the City Manager on Items 1 through 4 under Award of Bids on Water Department Equipment.

Councilman Jahn asked the actual difference there was between the bid of Bacon Sales and other bids, and City Manager Stevens replied about 12%.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Mayor Isen asked City Manager Stevens if he had any oral recommendations.

Mr. Stevens told the Council that in working on the lease to Air Logistics Corporation at the Torrance Municipal Airport, one of the Airport Commissioners has recommended that a completion bond be posted for the building Air Logistics proposes to build at the lease site.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with this recommendation, and that in the future any leases for construction of any type on the airport have this stipulation, and the Airport Commission to be so advised.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

ENGINEERING AND PLANNING COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. CASE NO. 390: (Held over from Meetings of June 19 and June 26). Transmittal form from Planning Commission recommending approval of application of A. M. Klum et al, for variance to construct 10 retail stores at 239th Street and Crenshaw Boulevard in Land Use Zone A-1, recommended for approval, subject to Special Conditions. Attached was an excerpt from Council Minutes of June 26, 1956.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission providing Mr. Klum agreed to concur with the recommendation of the City Engineer regarding the widening of Crenshaw Boulevard.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen.

Councilman Jahn went on record as believing any future land requirements for widening Crenshaw Boulevard should be satisfied from the West side of Crenshaw Boulevard, and the owners on the East side of the street have already given 80 feet for the purpose, which he believes to be more than fair.

Councilman Jahn went on to say that an 80-foot street is all that is planned by the County for this stretch of Crenshaw Boulevard. He then reiterated his belief that any future widening of Crenshaw should be done from the West side of the street.

Mr. Klum said if the 10 feet is dedicated to the City as recommended by the City Engineer, the sidewalk would be on that 10 feet.

Councilman Jahn asked if giving this 10 feet of land would still allow parking in front of the buildings, and Mr. Klum said the parking would be enhanced by allowing the buildings to be only 5 feet from the rear property line instead of 10.

Mayor Isen asked George Powell, Planning Director, about this suggestion.

Mr. Powell replied this would prevent traffic between the buildings and protect the trees there, as the neighbors had asked be done.

At 6:25 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess and the Council reconvened at 6:35 P. M.

Councilman Drale amended his motion as follows: He moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission subject to a 5-foot clearance of the rear property line rather than a 10-foot clearance; and that Mr. Klum conform to the recommendation of the City Engineer that a 10-foot sidewalk easement be secured.

Mayor Isen accepted the amended motion, and it carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

2. CASE NO. 393: Transmittal form from Planning Commission recommending approval of Petition of M. E. Weeks for Variance and Conditional Permit for purpose of processing chickens raised on premises, to be sold from store located at 2124 west 174th Street, being a portion of the Northwest quarter of Lot 66, McDonald Tract, between Arlington and Gramercy, in Land Use Zone C-2, subject to the Special Condition that adequate parking be provided.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with this recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

3. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 16884: Transmittal form from Engineering Department and Planning Commission recommending approval of Tentative Tract Map No. 16884, located southerly of Spencer Street and easterly of Henrietta Avenue, containing 60 lots, and presented by Mr. Richard Meine. Attached: (a) Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of June 20, 1956; (b) Letter from John R. Patrick, Ass't. to City Engineer dated June 6, 1956; (c) Minutes of Regional Planning Commission dated May 8, 1956; (d) Letter from County Health Department dated April 26, 1956; (3) Sketch of tract.

Mr. R. G. Miller, of 1436 Marcelina Avenue, came forward and asked the Council if they would hold this Tract for two weeks for further engineering.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with this request, and, there being no objections, it was so ordered.

4. Letter from John R. Patrick, Ass't. to City Engineer, submitting First Supplemental Memorandum of Agreement from State Division of Highways. This letter from Mr. Patrick was dated June 28, 1956.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2957

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE ADOPTING BUDGET AND APPROVING
FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
FOR EXPENDITURE OF GAS TAX ALLOCATION FOR
MAJOR CITY STREETS.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2957.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

5. A letter dated June 29, 1956, from George C. Powell, Director of Planning, reporting to the Council that the Planning Commission recommends to the Council the possibility of employing a Land Use Investigator.

Mayor Isen referred this to the City Manager for a report and recommendation.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

ORDINANCE NO. 814

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE AMENDING "APPENDIX I OF THE CODE
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954", TO PROVIDE
FOR A NEW C-3 (SOLELY COMMERCIAL) ZONE.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance 814 at its first reading.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount.

Councilman Drale said he did not approve of the requirements for parking in the Ordinance.

6. Letter dated July 2, 1956, from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, recommending release of subdivision bond on Tract No. 15272, Bond No. 31-B-19120. Mr. Bishop's letter said the improvements were complete except for the trees which should be planted in the parkways, and said he had been informed that this would be handled by the City Attorney.

Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer said this matter was handled by Mr. Hall, who said it would be better to release the bond than have the City become liable for it. Mr. Hall also recommends, Mr. Remelmeyer reported, that the City file suit to determine the matter.

Councilman Jahn asked if there was a tree ordinance when this tract was passed, and City Engineer Bishop replied that there was.

Councilman Drale asked if the bond called only for completion of streets, curbs, and sidewalks.

Mr. Bishop said yes, that the other requirements are in the agreements. He went on to say that in the last year or so the bonds covered trees as well.

Councilman Drale moved to release this bond, and that Mr. Griswold be notified that it was a condition of the approval of the Tract that the trees be planted, and that the trees are expected to be planted within the meaning of the Ordinance, and that if this is not done the City will be forced to follow up on it.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2958

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TO ORDER THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES ON CERTAIN
PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY THE CITY OF TORRANCE FOR
PUBLIC USE.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2958.
 Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2959

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FOR PURCHASE OF TAX DEEDED LAND AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2959.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2960

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH JOHN V. RUSSELL.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2960.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2961

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING SALARY OF CITY MANAGER FOR FISCAL YEAR 1956-67.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2961.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

ORDINANCE NO. 811

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GRANTING TO PACIFIC COAST GASOLINE COMPANY, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN PIPELINES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF HYDROCARBON SUBSTANCES IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 811 at its second and final reading.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

ORDINANCE NO. 813

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING APPENDIX I OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" (ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 791), RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 372.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 813 at its second and final reading.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

ORDINANCE NO. 815

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE CONTINUING A THREE-STEP PAY RANGE PLAN AND MAKING A CHANGE IN THE SALARIES OF THE VARIOUS POSITIONS IN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Urgency Ordinance No. 815 at its first and final reading.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens reported to the Council that in granting the request of the National Guard last year for ~~\$500.00~~ ^{\$300.00}, the National Guard ^{See minutes of 7/10/58} had agreed to do certain things, i.e., furnish the Armory, perform specific services, and account for the expenditure of the fund given them by the City. The City Manager went on to say that the National Guard had kept their agreement, and have now turned over to him a record of the money spent. He invited any Councilmen who might wish to do so to inspect the report. City Manager Stevens then recommended this report be accepted as having complied fully with the terms of the agreement.

Mayor Isen moved to concur with this recommendation of the City Manager.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Benstead. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount.

Councilman Benstead said he wished to examine the report mentioned by the City Manager before voting yes on this.

Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer spoke to the Council regarding the employment of Mr. James Hall. Mr. Remelmeyer told the Council that Mr. Hall has been handling certain matters of great importance to the City, and suggested that the Council might wish to retain Mr. Hall as Special Counsel until these matters have been completed.

Mayor Isen directed that this request be held over and the information presented in written form.

Councilman Drale asked the status of the curbs, gutters, and sidewalks on Prairie Avenue.

City Manager Stevens said the petitions have been returned, but are short several signatures of the required number. He said the School District and Edison Company are major property owners in that District and will be contacted. The City Manager added that the people in the area are still trying to get the additional signatures needed.

Councilman Jahn asked about the man the Engineering Department had been authorized to hire to secure easements for sewers in the Hollywood Riviera District.

City Engineer Bishop said Mr. R. Heisner has been temporarily engaged for this purpose, and has secured 45 easements to date.

City Manager Stevens commented that Mr. George Viko has volunteered his services to assist the City in this matter.

Councilman Jahn asked if Mr. Viko was not helping free of charge, and the City Manager said this is true.

Councilman Jahn noted that the League of California Cities has appointed a Committee on Flood Control, and said the purpose of the Committee is to meet with the County Flood Control District about the needs of the various cities. He asked if our City would be represented on this Committee.

City Manager Stevens said he would contact the League of California Cities and get this information.

Councilman Jahn asked City Manager Stevens about the recommendation about night lighting for the airport which came through the Council some weeks ago.

City Manager Stevens replied he had received an estimate from Kraushines, who furnish most airport lighting equipment. He went on to say that the Council would have this information next week.

Councilman Benstead asked if the Kauffman-Wilson Construction Company has paid for the trees they removed from along Torrance Boulevard.

City Manager Stevens said he did not believe so, but could not say positively.

Councilman Benstead said he did not want this matter overlooked. He suggested that Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer contact Kauffman-Wilson regarding the trees and see when they intend to pay for them.

Councilman Benstead said he would like to have this information given to the Council at their next regular meeting.

Councilman Drale asked what is being done about the annexation of El Nido, and City Manager Stevens replied it is being processed.

Mayor Isen said he had received a copy of an open letter which the Torrance papers will carry shortly about the Torrance Bluebirds, and the Mayor presented his copy to the City Clerk for reproduction to be on the agenda of the next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Mayor Isen said that Mr. George Schneider of 636 Calle Miramar, Redondo Beach, had been appointed to fulfill the unexpired term of Robert Jahn on the Airport Commission, the term expiring on July 5, 1956. The Mayor went on to say that he was happy to re-appoint Mr. Schneider to this post for a full three-year term from July 5, 1956, to July 5, 1959.

The Mayor asked for a poll of the Council on this appointment, and the appointment was unanimously approved by those present.

Mayor Isen then announced that Mr. Rex Hayes, of 421 Calle de Aragon, Redondo Beach, had been appointed to fulfill the term of Mr. Hilborn on the Airport Commission, this term also expiring on July 5, 1956. Mr. Hayes, due to the great pressure of his work at this time has had to refuse re-appointment. The Mayor thanked Mr. Hayes for his services, and asked the City Clerk to send him a letter to that effect.

Mayor Isen appointed Mr. Tom Abrams, of 2657 Lofty View Drive, Welteria, to serve a full term in the vacancy created by Mr. Hayes' resignation. The term is to run from July 5, 1956, to July 5, 1959.

Mayor Isen asked for a poll of the Council on this appointment, and it was unanimously approved by those present.

At 7:10 P. M., Councilman Drale asked to be excused from the meeting and left the Council Chamber.

Mr. Jerry Holloman, Secretary of the Coordinating Council of City Employees of the City of Torrance, asked the Council what action was taken on the four points his group had recommended for consideration by the Council.

Mayor Isen asked City Manager Stevens to write a letter to Mr. Holloman and answer this question.

City Manager Stevens said such a letter will be written, and told Mr. Holloman that a three-week after ten years of service has been approved, that nothing has been done on the request for 11 paid holidays through the year, and that a plan is under consideration that would partially satisfy the request for sick-leave pay at the time of termination of employment with the City.

Mr. Holloman reported to the Council that he had taken a survey of several cities to compare with the wages and benefits they offer to those offered by Torrance. He presented copies of the survey to members of the Council and the City Clerk. He expounded the points of difference quite fully.

Mr. Holloman then read from the Civil Service pamphlet prepared by the City the following: "The City Manager shall prepare a wage survey once a year"; he said his group asked this be changed to allow such a survey to be made any time wages fall below par.

Mayor Isen said such a survey should be made at the instruction of the City Council.

Mayor Isen suggested to Mr. Holloman that he raise this question before the Civil Service Board.

Mr. Glen Price of 2111 Andreo spoke to the Council as a representative of the Torrance Fire Fighters. He presented to the Council the first of a series of reports on the firemens working conditions and related matters. He added that he would return to the Council meeting of July 17, 1956, to answer any questions the Councilmen might have about this report.

Councilman Jahn moved that all bills properly audited be paid.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 P. M.

APPROVED:

Albert Isen

Mayor of the City of Torrance

A. H. Bartholomew

City Clerk of the City of Torrance